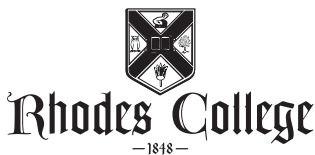


Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership Success Story



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Green Energy Switch

The Member

Rhodes College is a private, liberal arts college located in Memphis, TN.

The Story

As we all know, fuel prices have been on the rise over the past several years. As a result, energy prices are also increasing. Rhodes, like anyone else, is concerned with controlling these costs, and we are always searching for ways to combat higher energy costs, typically through efforts to conserve energy, increase efficiency, and reduce usage. Rhodes also takes its responsibility to the environment very seriously, and we wish to be good environmental stewards within the community. Currently, the cost to generate energy from renewable sources (such as solar power and methane) is much more than the cost associated with traditional fossil fuels.

New Idea: Purchase Green Power Blocks

After much research, Rhodes has decided to participate in the Green Energy Switch offered by Memphis Light, Gas, and Water, despite the higher cost. Memphis Light, Gas, and Water is the largest three-service public utility in the nation and serves over 420,000 customers in Memphis and Shelby County. Rhodes' purchases of green power blocks through the Green Energy Switch helps provide finances to be invested into the development of new sources of electric generation. Currently, less than 1% of electricity produced by the Tennessee Valley Authority is green energy, but as more customers like Rhodes switch to Green Power, the percentage will only continue to

grow. Rhodes is one of only 24 businesses in Memphis that participates in this program, and we are hopeful that our participation will serve as an example, both to our students and to our community.

The Success

In the spring of 2006 Rhodes made its first purchase of green energy blocks from Memphis Light, Gas, and Water. Currently, Rhodes purchases 170 blocks monthly, which is 6% of the overall usage of the electricity on campus. The 6% usage of green energy qualifies Rhodes for an Environmental Protection Agency Green Power Partnership. This partnership allows for the EPA to work on expanding the green power market, which in the long run will support new, clean electric generation that will reduce the harmful environmental impact of non-reusable energy sources.

The Pollution Prevented

Rhodes' purchase of 170 blocks at 150 kilowatt hours per block generates 306,000 kilowatt hours annually, which is enough to meet the annual electricity needs of 20 average Memphis households. Green power does not produce the harmful air emissions that are associated with the use of fossil fuels. Our commitment for one year has the same environmental benefits as: recycling more than 1.2 million aluminum cans, planting 85 acres of trees, recycling 74 tons of newspaper or not driving your car for 27 years.

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TENNESSEE POLLUTION PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP

1-800-734-3619 www.tdec.net/ea/tp3